Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

Union County Public Library maintains number one ranking in children's attendance in Kentucky

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Contact Information:

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 5, 2014) – For the second year in a row, the Union County Public Library children's program ranks number one in attendance among the state's public libraries, according to the 2014 Statistical Report of Kentucky Public Libraries.

The report provides a top-10 ranking for 16 measures that demonstrate successful libraries in the Commonwealth and includes data from all of the state's public libraries. Children's program attendance per capita at the Union County Public Library is 2.45, while the average per capita children's attendance in Kentucky's public libraries is .32.

"Public libraries are a very important source of educational programming for Kentucky's children," said State Librarian and Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives Commissioner Wayne Onkst. "We congratulate the Union County Public Library for leadership in providing these services that will pay large dividends in the future."

Union County Public Library Director Debbie McClanahan has a few ideas about how the library retained their number one ranking with children.

"Our number one ranking in children's program attendance is all about support. From the public who supports us and attends our programs, as well as community partners who support us, to our great patrons who attend programs such as Time4Tots and after school programs, and finally our great staff who greet patrons, catalog materials and provide fantastic programs.

"I would also include our partnership with the Union County School district, which works with us to provide the Summer Read and Feed program for children of all ages," said McClanahan.

The Union County Public Library was ranked in the top 10 in four additional measures:

- #3 in total library staff at 11.45 per 1,000 population (state average is 5.02)
- #4 in annual public service hours at .49 per capita (state average is .14)
- #7 in Internet computers used by the public at 3.10 per 1,000 population (state average is 1.09)
- #10 in registered borrowers at .87 per capita (state average is .59).

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives provides equitable access to quality library and information resources and services, as well as helps public agencies ensure that legislatively mandated documentation of government programs is created, efficiently maintained and made accessible. For more information on KDLA resources, programs and services visit www.kdla.ky.gov or call 502-564-1753.

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